

MINUTES OF THE SALEM TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING HELD NOVEMBER 14, 2023

Meeting was called to order by Jim Pitsch at 7:00pm
Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Members Present: Don Sebright, Trustee, Jim Pitsch, Supervisor, Dan Striegle, Trustee, Renee Busscher, Clerk, Ashley Brower, Treasurer
Also preset: Rachelle Smit, Representative, District 43, Jim Storey, chairperson of the Allegan County Board of Commissioners
Absent: n/a

Reading of Minutes and Bills: Board Meeting (if needed), if no additions or corrections minutes and Bills will be approved and paid by consent.

Rachelle Smit: Legislature is adjourned for remainder of year. Governor can call them back if needed. Presidential Primary will be 2/27/24. Bills passed by party line to clean up Proposal 2. Two new (D)mayors, house is now 54/54. Green Deal passed. Reproductive Act passed, but tax payer dollars will not be funding this. Sand and Mining has been moved to back burner.

County Road Commissioner: n/a

County Commissioner: Jim Storey presented.

On Friday, 11/10/2023, connected with 123Net. Advised that other internet companies can use their fiberoptic lines, should create competition and more internet providers in future. Discussed Green Deal, House Bills 5120 ad 5121, passed 11/3/23 that will now put zoning decisions under Michigan Public Service Commission in Lansing instead of local zoning boards. Discussed animal advocacy in the county and encouraging adoption for animals. Also passed, townships cannot use private sources for donations for elections, that is to be only taxpayer funded. Allegan Conservation District Board had a request to advocate for Spongy Moth control.

Comments from Commissions & Departments of:

- **Zoning:** n/a
- **Planning:** set meeting dates, see website
- **Fire:** reviewed YTD calls, grants, new equipment donations, fire prevention month, Halloween turnout, mock drills in Sandy Pines simulating tornado drills
- **Ambulance:** grouped with fire
- **Library:** n/a out on team building event
- **Parks Planning:** waiting on final score coming this summer, due to improve from 160 to above 200
- **ARPA Funding:** n/a
- **Roads:** discussed final billings and to review budget, 24th St in Dorr to be worked on in 2024

Public Comment:

Concern for home not showing in service area for 123Net: rolling out in phases, to be a 2-year project could be added yet. Also, could be too far off road. Refer to Jill Dunham as she is our 123Net contact.

Old Business:

1. Recycling Surcharge Agreement with Republic Services
Moved by Dan Striegle, seconded by Don Sebright
Discussion: Attorney has reviewed.
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
2. Ordinance Addressing Floodplain Management Provisions of the State Construction Code: (Pending Attorney Okay)
TABLED
3. Amendment to Salem Township Solar Ordinance:
TABLED
4. Consumers Energy Gas Utilities Franchise Agreement:
Moved by Ashley Brower, seconded by Dan Striegle
Discussion: attorneys advised agreement was straightforward

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5. Top Grade Sand Mine:

TABLED

New Business:

1. Building Updates for Elections:

TABLED

2. Snow Removal Bids:

TABLED

3. Free Hall Rentals:

TABLED, will put policy in place before December Township Meeting

4. Hire a Design Specialist for determining how to best use Township Site: (Tower Pinkster)

TABLED, move to December Township Meeting

5. Release Master Plan for local entities inspection/review

Moved by Don Sebright, seconded by Ashley Brower

Discussion: Lori from PCI to put in paper

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6. Junk Removal Bids

TABLED, move to Special Township Meeting 11/30/23

7. Meeting Dates for Township

Moved by Renee Busscher, seconded by Don Sebright

Discussion: Every second Tuesday of the Month, will be posted on website

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Public Comment:

Housing development on 26th: questions about culvert, how close can it be to property line that is by the development? Refer to PCI.

Adjournment:

Moved by Ashley Brower, seconded by Dan Striegle to adjourn meeting at 8:14pm

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY